

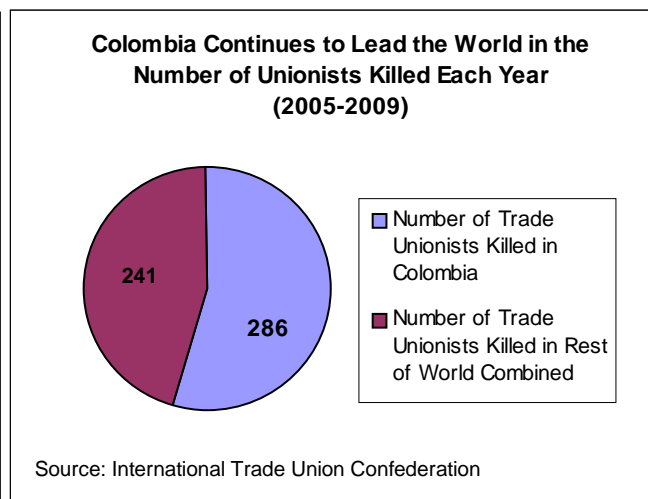
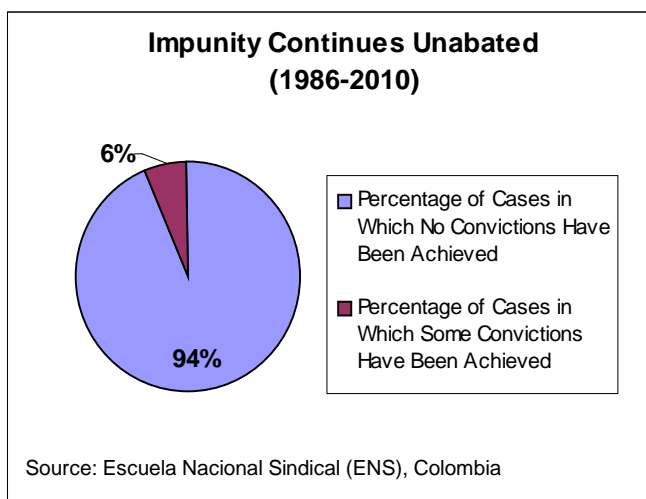
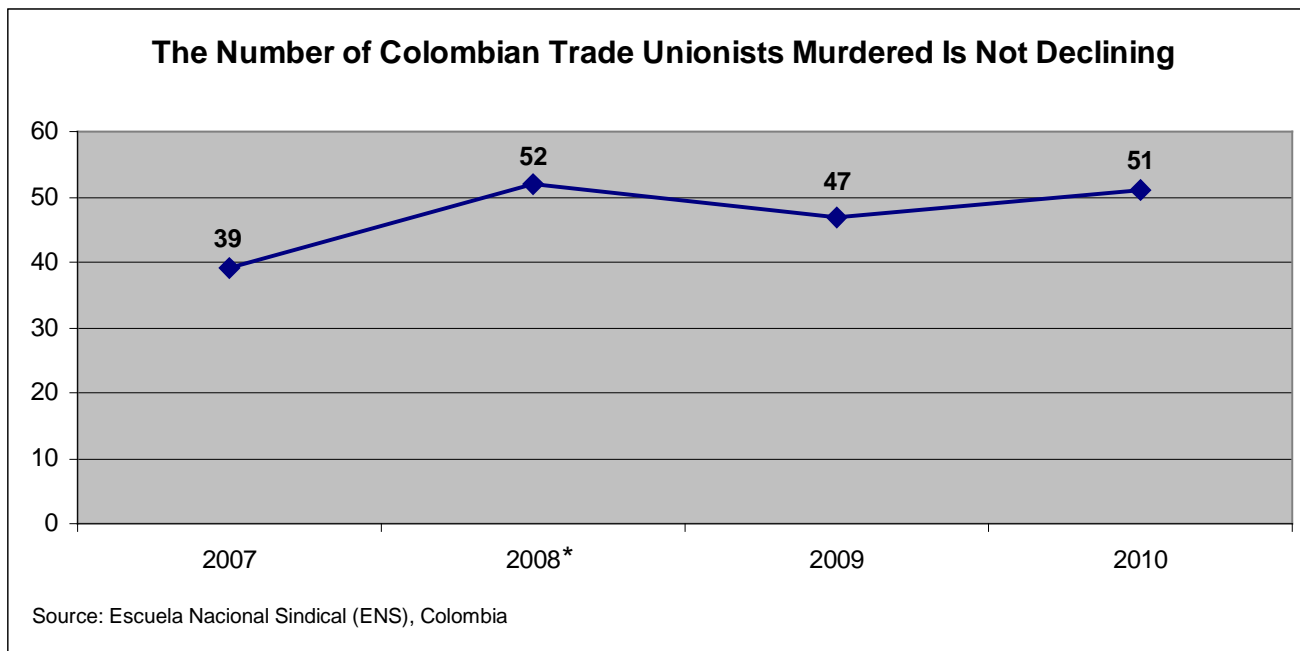
VIOLENCE AGAINST COLOMBIAN TRADE UNIONISTS: FACT vs MYTH

The Myth:

“Most experts agree that the violence [against Colombian trade unionists] has abated recently.”

—*The New York Times*, March 1, 2011 news story

The Facts:



* In the October 15, 2008 presidential debate, candidate Barack Obama defended his opposition to the Colombian Free Trade Agreement, saying: “*The history in Colombia right now is that labor leaders have been targeted for assassination on a fairly consistent basis and there have not been prosecutions... We have to stand for human rights and we have to make sure that violence isn't being perpetrated against workers who are just trying to organize for their rights.*”